



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/699,901
Filing Date: 11/3/2003
Applicant: Novil et al.
Group Art Unit: 3676
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Title: Sealing Gasket With Flexible Stopper
Attorney Docket: 03-0019/CPA

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A. Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were

previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

D. This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form 1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g).)

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1. See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application:

2. English translations are provided:

3. Other:

C. The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does (do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Art Unit</u>
10/650,339	8/28/2003	3676

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check only one box)

1. within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.
2. within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.
3. before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required.
4. before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
2. See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

- A. each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or
- B. no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).
- C. some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

- each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VI. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

- A. Since this IDS has been timely filed, it is believed that no fee is due.
- B. Please charge the amount of \$180.00 to the credit card indicated on the attached Credit Card Payment Form.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to the credit card indicated on the Credit Card Payment Form previously of record in this application.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to the credit card indicated on the Credit Card Payment Form previously of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Dec. 8, 2004

By: 
Ronald W. Wangerow
Reg. No. 29,597

CUSTOMER NO. 29293

Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership
47690 East Anchor Court
Plymouth, MI 48170-2455
(734) 354-5445

RWW/cmr

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL No.
		03-0019/CPA	10/699,901
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT	
		Novil et al.	
		FILING DATE	GROUP
		11/3/2003	3676



Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		6,180,167	1/30/2001	Majewski et al.		
2.		6,371,489	4/16/2002	Combet et al.		
3.		6,499,743	12/31/2002	Sadowski		
4.		6,722,662	4/20/2004	Heilig et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes No
1.		EP 0 757 195 B1	6/7/2000	Europe		Abstract
2.		EP 0 769 616 B1	11/8/2000	Europe		Abstract
3.		EP 0 816 723 B1	9/25/2002	Europe		Abstract (see also USPN 6180167)
4.		EP 0 915 271 B1	12/3/2003	Europe		Abstract
5.		EP 0 915 272 B1	12/3/2003	Europe		Abstract
6.		EP 1 099 891 B1	11/19/2003	Europe		Abstract
7.		EP 1 271 016 B1	3/17/2004	Europe		Abstract
8.		WO 01/02714 A1	1/11/2001	PCT		X
9.		WO 02/079630 A1	10/10/2002	PCT		X

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number 10/699,901
		Filing Date 11/3/2003
		First Named Inventor Novil et al.
		Art Unit 3676
		Examiner Name Not Yet Assigned
ATTENT TO TRADEMARK OFFICE Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number 03-0019/CPA

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card Payment Form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks If for any reason Applicant has not paid a sufficient amount to prevent the abandonment of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee due (or credit any overpayment) to the credit card indicated on the attached Credit Card Payment Form		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

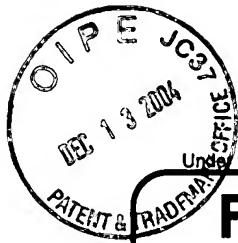
Firm Name	Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership		
Signature			
Printed name	Ronald W. Wangerow		
Date	December <u>E</u> , 2004	Reg. No.	29,597

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	Ronald W. Wangerow		
Typed or printed name			Date December <u>E</u> , 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

Effective 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)
180.00

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/699,901
Filing Date	11/3/2003
First Named Inventor	Novil et al.
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Art Unit	3676
Attorney Docket No.	03-0019/CPA

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit card Money Order Other None
 Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number

 Deposit Account Name

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)		
1001 790	2001 395	Utility filing fee	<input type="text"/>
1002 350	2002 175	Design filing fee	<input type="text"/>
1003 550	2003 275	Plant filing fee	<input type="text"/>
1004 790	2004 395	Reissue filing fee	<input type="text"/>
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	<input type="text"/>
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)		0	

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	-20** = -20	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> = 0.00
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	- 3** = -3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> = 0.00
				<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 88	2201 44	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 300	2203 150	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 88	2204 44	** Reissue Independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)		0

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	<input type="text"/>
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	<input type="text"/>
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	<input type="text"/>
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	<input type="text"/>
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	<input type="text"/>
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	<input type="text"/>
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	<input type="text"/>
1252 430	2252 215	Extension for reply within second month	<input type="text"/>
1253 980	2253 490	Extension for reply within third month	<input type="text"/>
1254 1,530	2254 765	Extension for reply within fourth month	<input type="text"/>
1255 2,080	2255 1,040	Extension for reply within fifth month	<input type="text"/>
1401 340	2401 170	Notice of Appeal	<input type="text"/>
1402 340	2402 170	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	<input type="text"/>
1403 300	2403 150	Request for oral hearing	<input type="text"/>
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	<input type="text"/>
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	<input type="text"/>
1453 1,370	2453 685	Petition to revive - unintentional	<input type="text"/>
1501 1,370	2501 685	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	<input type="text"/>
1502 490	2502 245	Design issue fee	<input type="text"/>
1503 660	2503 330	Plant issue fee	<input type="text"/>
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	<input type="text"/>
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	<input type="text"/>
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	<input type="text"/> 180.00
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	<input type="text"/>
1809 790	2809 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	<input type="text"/>
1810 790	2810 395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	<input type="text"/>
1801 790	2801 395	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	<input type="text"/>
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	<input type="text"/>
Other fee (specify) _____			

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**180.00**

SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Ronald W. Wangerow	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,597	Telephone (734) 354-5445
Signature		Date	Dec. 2, 2004	

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.